REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, have been amended, where appropriate, to overcome the rejection. Claim 4 was cancelled previously.

The rejection of claims 16-18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,447,170) is respectfully traversed. First of all, Takahashi does not disclose a trough. Secondly, element 19 of the reference locks the connector 10 in the housing 30. It does not move over an object (cable 11) to hold the object on the holder in response to insertion of part 10 into part 30. In fact, the object (cable 11) is already held in the connector 10 and is pushed into the housing 30 to lock the connector 10 to the housing. See column 7, lines 45-49 of the reference.

In a non-limiting example of Applicants' invention, when the slide moves into the trough, jaws 21 of the retaining elements 18 are placed in contact with an object such as a pipe or cable, for example, on opposed sides, to clamp it in place between them, and the ribs 22 overlie and contact the side of the object facing the opening 6, whereby the object is secured in the holder 2. See page 9, last paragraph, of the specification.

Claims 16-18 and 20 should be allowed. Claim 21 has been added to define the trough more specifically and should also be allowed.

This application is now believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:dmt

By: _Nelson H. Shapiro_
Nelson H. Shapiro
Reg. No. 17,095

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 903-9000

Date: December 8, 2005

14